



## The South...

AS SEEN BY MR. JOHN D. MEYER.  
Part 2.

I reached Columbia on a day which was like one of our May days. None of the people wore overcoats, the doors were all open, and many were sitting on their porches. This city is an interesting one from the fact that it is the capital of the first state to secede from the Union, and was directly in the path of Sherman's march. It was burned at the time of that march and it was from this fact alone almost that I heard any complaint whatever concerning the ravages of the war. The city however has made wonderful progress since that time and now stands among the first of its size of inland towns of the South. Being situated in the centre of a fertile cotton district, cotton mills which give employment to thousands of hands are being built. It is here that the great Olympia mill is. This is one of the largest cotton mills in the United States. The machinery is all run by electricity and everything is built upon the latest improved methods. The company has built homes for all its hands, has its own schools, churches, fire department and water supply.

Here are also several phosphate works which daily makes many tons of fertilizer. The state asylum, penitentiary and state dispensary are located here. In South Carolina the dispensary law is in vogue. No saloons or bar-rooms are to be found but instead each city or district has its dispensary where whiskey, beer or wine can be bought only in bottles sealed by the state government. The dispenser, or bar-tender, as we might call him, is appointed by the state, and the profits, after paying the state the cost of the goods, goes to the school fund of each district. This law seems to work very well and does away to a certain extent with the evil of treating. It is no unusual sight however to see two or three colored people, or that many whites, behind some building or in some alley drinking from a pint bottle of fifteen or twenty cent whiskey. But during the time I was South I saw not more than ten or twelve intoxicated men.

I found the Southern cities in a prosperous and flourishing condition, greatly due, I think, to the investment in manufacturing establishments by Northern capitalists. The South needs badly the Northern money to bring out possibilities of which she is able. The farming region or rather the farmers are not as active as they should be and for that reason the country is slow in developing. Of course they lost nearly everything by the war but talking about their losses will not make the country.

I went out into the country and by observation and inquiry I soon learned that the farmer of that country is satisfied with very little. Our poorest farmer may well consider himself rich as compared with the average farmer of the South. On becoming acquainted with a certain farmer I asked him about the amount of grain and cotton he raised and the number of acres in his farm; he told me that he had only a small farm as it consisted of only five hundred and thirty-five acres, which to me seemed rather large. I then asked him how many horses he used to cultivate, and here, no matter how small, they put their crops. Probably in a farm of the size of which I have spoken you will not find one patch over three or four acres in size. No effort is made to get the soil in a state of cultivation. The farming implements, harness, etc., show that the farmers are not as progressive as they

might be. Not many horses are used but the mule does the work. It is no unusual sight in the South to see an old mule hitched to an excuse for a wagon coming into the city to market, bringing a little load of wood,—about the principal thing they bring to market. I saw scores of teams on which ropes were used for lines. In one instance I saw a colored man driving his mule, using a piece of rope for one line and a piece of wire for the other. Quite a good many oxen are used, and the sight of an ox being driven in a buggy for a pleasure drive was, of course very strange to me but to the people there it called forth no comment whatever. A great many carts (the same as our dump-carts) are used in the cities. I saw several of this kind which were used for delivering milk and bread. It is very interesting to meet the people of the country; their ways of living and manner of talking is very different from ours. On being asked where I lived I would tell the inquirer in Pennsylvania, and the next question nearly always was about Philadelphia. They seem to associate the whole of Pennsylvania with Philadelphia.

The reputation for hospitality of the Southern people is certainly well deserved. They are hospitable to a fault no matter where a person is from, the north or any other part of the country. The cooking there differs very materially from ours, and it takes one several days at least to become accustomed to the food as prepared by their methods. Hominy, rice, corn and bacon in substance form the foundation of their meals. They eat breakfast generally between half-past seven and nine o'clock, dinner from half-past one to three, and supper from seven to eight. Christmas is celebrated there by the blowing of horns and the shooting of fire-crackers. Christmas eve and all day Christmas reminded me very much of our Fourth of July. This celebration is engaged in by the old as well as the young. To me it seemed that a great part of the real meaning of the day is lost in the noise and excitement which takes place. The holly and mistletoe are used for decorating on this occasion. The holly grows there very abundantly as does the mistletoe and great amounts of either may be bought for very little from the colored boys who gather it.

The people of the South no longer, I believe, feel any resentment toward the people of the North. In conversation I learned that they felt something would have been necessary later on, to have been done with the slaves as they increased too rapidly in numbers to have been held just as they were. The old slaves and the children of them are very polite and respectful to the white people but the younger element of colored persons is becoming more impudent and are beginning to feel they are the equal of the whites in every particular and in many instances that they are better. Their being so great in number, in many places in the majority, may yet cause serious trouble in our country.

There is no doubt of it, the white people must always be in control if our country is to remain in the high position it now is. We do not here fully realize what our Southern neighbors have to contend with, and the full development of the country and the settlement of any troubles that may arise out of the race-problem is enjoined upon us to a greater extent than we may now think.

The people there are making great efforts to advance; in their schools they have made great advancement, and it is surprising to know the number of smaller institutions of learning and colleges they have. This fact alone will help to bring that country to its deserved position with the other parts of our country.

Elmer McClellan announces sale of live stock and farm implements for March 4, on the McClellan homestead near Tusseyville. Mr. McClellan is casting about for a home of his own of less acres than the old place on which he now lives. Harry McClellan, who at present lives on the Mrs. Colyer farm at Colyer, will move to the McClellan farm.

Perry Luse, is proud of the position as manager of the E. M. Huyett farm west of town. A henry will be one of the features on that farm, the Silver-laced Wyandottes having been selected as the breed. He is feeding some thirty head of young cattle, and next spring an immense manure shed will be erected, and fitted with racks, etc., to accommodate a much larger number of cattle than are at present being fed.

**LOCALS.**

There is talk of starting a bank in Milroy.

Elmer Houtz, of near Litden Hall, bought out the butchering establishment of Wm. Meyer, at Millheim.

Two inches of snow fell Tuesday, ending in a rain the following night. Wednesday morning another snow set in.

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**Oak Hall.**

Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Peters spent Tuesday at Bellefonte.

Ross Gregory, of Huntingdon county, shipped a car load of sheep last Thursday morning.

Prof. Yearick, John F. Krape, of Aaronsburg; Victor Brungart, Centre Hall, and Harry Walker, of Pine Grove Mills, visited at the home of E. Smith last week.

Edward Durt, of Centre Hall, visited at the home of Robert Tressler on Sunday.

Grace Barnhart, who fell on the ice several weeks ago is slowly recovering.

Peter I. Schler, of Boalsburg, boarded the train Monday morning for Virginia.

The Odd Fellows of Belmont will hold their annual banquet on Friday evening, 24th.

In Town Jan. 24.

Photographer W. W. Smith will be in town Friday next.

## TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Sale notes will be due shortly.

The Republican primaries will be held Friday evening, 24th.

The State College Times says R. M. Foster will be a candidate for the Legislature.

You will find Prof. John D. Meyers article on the south, in this issue, of great interest.

Mrs. C. H. Murray Friday went to her home in Reading where she will remain for a short time.

J. S. Strunk, of near Potters Mills, is reported as leaving Penns Valley and will move to the Wm Dale farm at Pleasant Gap.

Read the inside pages of the Reporter. You will find there all the principal happenings of the week in the state and elsewhere.

Hon. J. T. McCormick purchased a house and lot in State College for \$2500 and will move there shortly. He sold his farm stock and implements to M. P. Corl.

Miss Anna McCoy, daughter of Frank McCoy, of Bellefonte, returned to her home at Bellefonte recently. She had been seriously ill at Bryn Mawr, where she attended school.

J. B. Spangler, of Tusseyville, was one of the Monday callers at this office. Mr. Spangler is one of the good, straight south side Democrats, and a man whose word is never disputed.

Samuel K. Emerick, of Fleming, this county, was in town for the past week, paying a visit to his mother, Mrs. Rebecca Emerick, and brothers. Mr. Emerick was an old school teacher, but at present is engaged in farming.

Wm. F. Osman, Grant City, Missouri, is the successor of the firm of Osman & Okey, abstractors and loan brokers. Mr. Osman claims Centre Hall as his old home town, although he has been in Missouri for many years, and has risen in prominence, politically and otherwise.

A missionary social will be held at the home of Miss Janet McFarlane, of Boalsburg, on the evening of 31st inst. Miss McFarlane will show her friends her missionary tree, and is preparing other entertainment. A pleasant time is promised; an offering of ten cents will be taken at the door.

Jolly M. M. Condo and Isaac Shawver, both of this place, were callers the other evening. The latter will on April 1st assume charge of the Old Fort Hotel, which hostelry he conducted a few years ago. Mr. Shawver has had considerable hotel experience, and likes the business.

Much has been written by agriculturalists lately condemning the use of South Carolina rock phosphate. It is advocated that phosphates containing ammonia and potash, while their first cost is higher, in the end are much cheaper. The suggestion is worth noting.

Arthur E. Kerlin, of Centre Hall, is doing a nice business in shipping of "ben fruit." Mr. Kerlin supplies a number of first class hotels in Central Pennsylvania with the product of the hen, and has held their trade for years past on account of the quality of egg-handles and the promptness with which shipments are made.

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The Preeprot, Ill., Bulletin says: Dr. J. B. Litzell, who moved from Orangeville to Belvidere about a year ago, has, after taking a rest of a few months, opened an office for the practice of his profession. The doctor is a graduate of one of the leading medical colleges of the east and has practiced his profession very successfully for half a century or more. A thorough and well fixed in life and could retire. He feels that it would be easier to "wear out than rust out," and has therefore concluded to open an office. His many friends in this county will wish him the abundant success which he deserves.

## DEATH'S GOLD HAND.

CITIZENS WHO HAVE PASSED TO THE BEYOND.

HON. W. K. ALEXANDER.

The Alexander and Keller families, which form an important part of the citizens of Penns Valley, were saddened Sunday morning by the announcement of the death of Hon. W. K. Alexander, of Millheim, which took place during the early Sunday morning hours. His death was entirely unlooked for, although those intimately acquainted with him were not surprised to hear that his death occurred in the way it did—suddenly and from an affection of the heart.

The deceased was a son of Amos Alexander, and was born on the Van Triese farm, two and one-half miles west of Tusseyville, May 10, 1810, making his age almost sixty-two years. About 1892 he was married to Miss Sallie Mouch, daughter of Jesse Mouch, of Millheim. Two children were born to them—one died in infancy, the other at the age of thirteen. The widow survives.

Dr. J. F. Alexander, of Centre Hall; A. Reed Alexander, Buffalo, Missouri; Christ Alexander, formerly of Millheim, are brothers; and Miss Kate Alexander of California, is a sister of the deceased. One sister, Miss Maggie, died in 1889.

Mr. Alexander in 1876, was elected over H. C. Campbell, Republican, to the Legislature, to fill the unexpired term of Hon. Simon P. Wolf, of this place, who died before taking the oath of office. He succeeded himself for a second term. Mr. Alexander was always a staunch Democrat, and was recognized by that party in local affairs.

Interment took place in Millheim Wednesday morning.

THOMAS TIBBENS.

Thomas Tibbens, an old and highly respected citizen of Houserville, College township, died at his home in that place Monday morning at 3 o'clock of infirmities incident to old age. He had been an invalid for over six years. He was ninety-two years old. He was a retired farmer and quite an influential citizen. Surviving him are two sons and several daughters. The sons are County Auditor William H. Tibbens, of College township, and James Tibbens, of Clearfield.

JAMES PRICE.

James Price died at his home in Boalsburg Thursday last week, at the age of eighty-six years. Interment took place Sunday forenoon, at Boalsburg, Rev. Leisher, of the Lutheran church, his pastor, officiating.

The deceased was a life-long resident of Boalsburg, and was of Welsh descent. During his younger days he followed the trade of plastering, but for a number of years he conducted a small candy and cigar store. He was a familiar figure about town and friendly to all.

The wife of the deceased and his only daughter, Mrs. Agnes Condo, are dead. Since the death of his wife the deceased had his home with his son-in-law, J. I. Condo.

The cause of his death was paralysis, coupled with infirmities due to old age.

J. WILLIAM SMITH.

J. William Smith, whose illness was mentioned last week in these columns, succumbed to the ravages of consumption Monday night at twelve o'clock. He had been ill since last fall, but only took his bed about two weeks ago. There was no hope entertained for his recovery for the past two weeks. The interment took place this, Thursday, forenoon, at Sprucetown cemetery, Rev. J. M. Bearick, of the Lutheran church, officiating, the deceased having connected himself with that church recently. Dr. Schuyler assisted at the funeral.

The deceased leaves a wife and seven children, the oldest of which is between twelve and thirteen years of age. His wife previous to her marriage was Miss Hattie Bitner, daughter of Samuel Bitner.

Mr. Smith was the son of Adam Smith, deceased, of Centre Hill, and is survived by his mother and the following brothers and sisters: (Anna) Mrs. M. W. Smith, Emporium, Kansas; Miss Emma, at the same place; Robert M., Centre Hill; (Gertrude) Mrs. Edward Bowersox, at home; Miss Jennie, Bellevue, Ohio; George W., Miss Florence A., Lloyd R., and Miss Lida, at home.

The deceased was a tanner by trade and for a number of years conducted the Potters Mills' tannery.

Arthur W. Vance, formerly editor of the Home Magazine of New York, is now managing editor of the Woman's Home Companion.

## Teachers' Local Institute.

BOALSBURG, PA., JANUARY 17-18.

The interest manifested in the teachers' local institute at Boalsburg exceeded that of any previous institute held in that place. Not only the teachers felt the blood running swiftly in the educational veins, but citizens as well, both in and about town. The attendance was large. Twenty-nine teachers were at the Saturday afternoon session.

In making up the report of this institute, the space will be devoted to the work of the actual teachers. There is no intention to slight others, but the teachers are entitled to recognition, which will more than fill the space that can be allotted in these columns. The remarks of Superintendent Gramley will also be passed without comment, except to say that they are in general, endorsed by the Reporter.

**FRIDAY EVENING SESSION.**

After devotional exercises Superintendent Gramley talked on the "Duties of school directors." Rev. G. W. Leisher also talked on the same subject.

Prof. E. G. Boose, of State College, spoke on "How can we secure the cooperation of the parents in the public schools?" We must get the parents interested in the work. We, as teachers, should be willing to spend extra time in assisting our boys and girls over dark subjects. We should become acquainted with our patrons.

Recitations were rendered by Misses Beulah Fortney and Margaretta Goheen. Miss Eloise Schuyler read a selection and Miss Rose Woods sang a solo.

**SATURDAY FORENOON.**

J. C. Bryson—History: There never was the want of its instruction more apparent than now, and upon it, at least in some degree, may the destiny of this nation be determined. Too many pupils reach the high school grade without being properly prepared. Some, he said, had the mistaken idea that history contained very little except wars, and that its influence could not be felt or seen in the affairs of nations today. He claimed that every nation of the world today has been more or less influenced, guided and benefitted by those things which have happened in previous ages. He asserted that individuals who have had their influence in shaping the destiny of nations, ought of necessity, have their biography studied. Pupils will then become interested and will not resort to the reading of paper back novels which form the wrong conception of the world in which they are living.

History is important because it is the foundation of all political systems as well as the source of literature, art and music. It trains the mind to think properly because it deals with the actions of mankind. The last and most important use is to train for citizenship, for our republic can only last so long as we have intelligent voters. He concluded by saying that he believed we were living under one of the noblest governments the world has ever seen, one whose constitution is but a fabric that can be traced back to the Latin countries of Southern Europe.

Prof. James Gregg, principal of the Milesburg schools, was called on by the chairman. His address was couched in the most pleasing terms, and is deserving a more extended sketch. He said:

History is very often imperfectly taught. Our histories are divided into periods during which events of a particular kind so predominate as to give it a distinct characteristic; as the period of discovery and settlement; the period of settlement and occupation; the period of the struggle for supremacy between the colonizers ending in the dominance of the English race; the period of the struggle for political freedom of the English colonies ending in the Revolutionary war; the period of struggle for a government ending with the adoption of the different state and federal constitutions.

In looking over the different school histories we find that the history of these early periods is very often nothing but a biography of the different persons who stand out as leading figures in that particular period and while we believe that all this should be taught and would not for one moment want to detract from the glory and renown of our great national heroes yet we think that this should be subordinated to what is real history. In the period of discovery the social and industrial conditions of Europe which led to the discovery of America are often overlooked. The fact that America was not sought after but stumbled on and when found was not wanted, and that the principal discoveries and explorations were due to a persistent effort to find a way around it are very often imperfectly presented to the pupil. In the study of the pe-

riod of settlement and occupation we must again turn to Europe and study the economic conditions existing there at that time. What drove the settlers to Jamestown and Quebec? What manners and customs and political ideas they brought with them and planted in America. These facts have more to do with the building of our country than the acts of any of our heroes or a score of heroes. Our heroes did not make our history, but the history made them.

John F. Harrison—Impress the indomitable patriotism of our forefathers; the privations of the soldiers of the French and Indian war. That Commodore Perry passed through Centre county on his way to Erie from Philadelphia and camped on Wallace Run. Joseph Smith, the Mormon, sixty years ago passed through here, and preached at Unionville, which may account for so many Centre county men wanting more than one wife. Historical facts like these will be relished by the youth.

A. A. Pleicher, of Walker township, and Rev. Leisher followed.

Thomas L. Moore—"What does the teacher expect from the parents?" The parents and teacher are very closely related. The parents can do much to aid the teacher in discipline, by disciplining their children at home. They should see to it that the scholars in their homes get out their lessons. Parents should learn from the scholars the condition of the school. Parents should visit schools more frequently.

Prof. W. A. Krise: The teacher expects the parents to teach their children to be civil. They fail to have control over their children, and expect teachers to govern them.

"Borough High School Course"—A. T. Igen: Borough high schools are rated according to the curriculum and number of years necessary to complete the course. No curriculum should lose sight of the most important of common branches, viz., English grammar and composition, arithmetic, spelling, U. S. history, and political geography. English grammar, arithmetic and spelling should be continued for the first two years. Each subject should be so arranged that it teaches something allied to another study already taught or to be taught. Thus mensuration should be thoroughly taught after the study of geometry. Natural philosophy and physical geography may be correlated. As for example, the siphon and intermittent springs; barometry and weather; thermometry and temperature; specific gravity and carrying power of water and erosion. The first year Latin should be very thorough. The idea in beginner's Latin is that the pupil must recognize without hesitation any modifications. There should be electives. The tendency now is to have less Latin and Greek and more English and Anglo-Saxon.

H. I. Stahr:—The course is a very important part. There is a diversity of opinion as to what should constitute a high school course. The question has never been definitely settled. A high school course in a small country town should be gradually developed. There are many things to be considered in mapping out a course; a uniform course is hardly practicable. The needs of a community must be considered. The original purpose of a high school was no doubt to give public school scholars a little more education. The high school was not designed to prepare for college or to enter the profession of teaching, or take the place of an academy or college. The high school course should, therefore, be such as will prepare young men and women for life. We should choose those studies which build character. Above the intellectual side is the moral. What you learn morally you never forget; what you learn intellectually you may. The teacher is the principal part of the high school course.

Dr. Schuyler: The term high school has never been defined. It is difficult to maintain a high school in small towns. There is good argument here for the centralization of schools, and in this, political division of a county or state should not be considered.

Prof. J. C. Bryson: The tendency of a school teacher naturally runs in one direction or another—if it is language, he will do so in language; if his inclinations are of a mathematical turn, he will teach it at more the roughly, and so on. One man cannot conduct an academy.

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